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LETTER DATED 9 APRIL 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES OF PORTUGAL, THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

We have the honour to transmit herewith the text, in English and Russian, of the joint statement of Portugal, Russia and the United States on Angola dated 9 April 1992 (see annex).

We should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Fernando REINO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Portugal
to the United Nations

(Signed) Thomas R. PICKERING
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the
United States of America
to the United Nations

(Signed) Valentin V. LOZINSKIY
Ambassador
Acting Permanent Representative
of the Russian Federation
to the United Nations

Annex

Joint statement of Portugal, the Russian Federation and the United States of America on Angola dated 9 April 1992

[Original: English/Russian]

On the occasion of the initiation of the demobilization of Government and UNITA troops and the announcement of a date for Angola's free and fair elections, Portugal, Russia and the United States heartily congratulate the Angolan parties. As observers to the Angolan peace process, we recognize the considerable progress made by the parties over the last several months to move the country towards lasting peace, stability and democracy.

We are convinced that now that demobilization has begun and the peace process is entering a critical phase, nothing short of full compliance with all aspects of the Lisbon Accords will ensure the successful holding of elections with United Nations monitoring on 29 and 30 September. To this end it is essential that rapid progress be made on those aspects of implementation in which there have been significant delays. Specifically, efforts must continue to focus on the extension of the central administration throughout the national territory, the formation of the new national army, and ensuring the neutrality of the police. We urge the Angolan parties and all the political forces of the country to cooperate in creating favourable conditions for preparing and conducting the elections.

At this stage, the highest priority must be given to the successful implementation of the accords culminating in the September election. Following these elections the Angolan people will have greater opportunity to find constructive solutions to the many long-standing problems of importance to them. The time remaining before elections is limited and the observers call on the parties to work closely with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to begin implementation of essential electoral preparations. The formation of an operationally effective National Electoral Commission is an essential step in this process. The observers also call on the parties to fully respect the political and human rights of all Angolans, since these rights serve as the basis for free and fair elections and a functioning democratic system.

Portugal, Russia and the United States call on the Governments of neighbouring States and all countries of the region to contribute to the consolidation of peace in Angola. We also call on the international community at large to actively support the demobilization and electoral processes vital to the achievement of lasting peace and stability. The achievement of these ends in Angola will provide an additional incentive for the political resolution of conflicts in other countries, which will benefit the entire African continent.